

Remarks

The Applicant originally made the priority claim in the Application Transmittal filed with the patent application on January 13, 2004, but did not indicate whether the current application was a continuation or divisional application. The priority claim was not acknowledged on the official filing receipt. The Examiner has indicated that the priority claim is defective and has required a correction to the claim. The Applicant has now amended the specification to include the relationship of this application to the priority applications. A petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) is included requesting the delayed priority claim to be accepted.

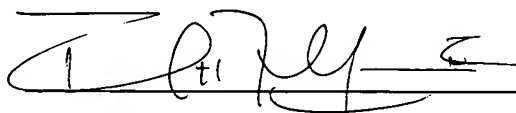
The Applicant has added new claims 34 and 35 and respectfully requests the claims to be examined.

The Applicant has submitted an Information Disclosure Statement citing a plurality of US and non-US references. The Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to consider these references and include an initialed copy of the substitute 1449 forms with the next action in this application.

The Applicant respectfully traverses the two obviousness-type double patenting rejections. The claims in the parent patents do not anticipate the present claims and are not necessarily more specific claims as the present claims. All of the claim sets are different and the Applicant submits the present claims may be considered more specific than the claims of the parent patents. In addition, each of the present claims recites a limitation that is not found in the claims of the parent patents thus directing the claims to a different invention than those claimed in the parent patents. The Applicant thus respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the double patenting rejections.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully requests consideration of the claims and most earnestly solicits the issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance for the claims.

Please call the undersigned attorney if any issues remain after this amendment.



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I hereby certify that this correspondence (Amendment A in application serial no. 10/756,824 filed January 13, 2004) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail (with sufficient postage) in an envelope addressed to:
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